

**Virginia Department of Veterans Services  
Legislative and Budget Items Related to  
Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations'  
2006 – 2007 **DRAFT** Legislative Agenda, version 3 of 3  
9 August 2006**

| <b>Priority #</b>                           | <b>Description</b>                       | <b>Action requested</b>                              | <b>State Agency Responsible</b> | <b>Legislative or Budget Actions Taken</b> | <b>Status as of 8/9/06</b> |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <b>VETERANS AND MILITARY RETIREE ISSUES</b> |  |  |                                 |  |                            |
| .   | Third veterans care center               | Construct veterans care center in Hampton Roads      | DVS                             |  |                            |
|   | Third state veterans cemetery            | Construct state veterans cemetery in SW Virginia.    | DVS                             |  |                            |
|   | Virginia War Memorial Education Wing     | Appropriate \$6 million for construction             | Virginia War Memorial           |  |                            |
|   | Fisher House – McGuire VA Medical Center | Commonwealth to pledge \$1 million in matching funds | DVS                             |  |                            |

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|                   |  |  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Pre-taxed Healthcare Benefits                                | State allow vets/mil retirees to purchase pre-tax health care                                  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Free Purple Heart license plate                              | State issue free Purple Heart license tags to qualified vets                                   | VDOT                            |  |                            |
|                   | No tax on disability payments to 100% disabled vets          | Eliminate State income tax on disability payments to 100% disabled vets                        |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | No tax on DIC and SBP payments to surviving military spouses | Eliminate State income tax on DIC and SBP payments to surviving military spouses               |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | State Veterans Hiring Preference                             | Encode a State veterans hiring preference process  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | No tolls for VSO vans  | Provide passes/toll reimbursement for VSO vans used to transport vets to VA/State Care Centers |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Special exemption for VSO Canteens                           | Enact special exemption to allow VSO operation of  |                                 |  |                            |

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|                   |  | canteens Care Cntrs  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Special vets parking                       | Allow special vets parking at State facilities   |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Wounded Warrior Free Public Transportation | Provide status/passes for qualified Wounded Warriors to have free access to public transportation within the State           |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Long-term care for Poly-trauma vets        | Provide funding for additional resources/bed spaces in State Vet Care Centers for Poly-trauma long-term care                 |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Long-term care for spinal injury vets      | Provide funding for additional resources/bed spaces in State Vet Care Cntrs for spinal injury long-term care                 |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Ad Hoc Vet Services Committee              | Establish Ad Hoc Committee in General Assembly Veterans Services Committee to track veterans legislation for two-year period |                                 |  |                            |

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|   |  | to determine need for permanent Com'ttee   |                                 |  |                            |
|   | 4 <sup>th</sup> State Vets Care Center                             | Provide funding for initial study for 4 <sup>th</sup> State Vets Care Center (Norfolk/NOVA)  |                                 |  |                            |
|   | CHAMP (?)  | (?)  |                                 |  |                            |
|   |  |  |                                 |  |                            |
| <b>ACTIVE, GUARD AND RESERVE ISSUES</b> |  |  |                                 |  |                            |
|   | In-state tuition for members of Armed Forces stationed in Virginia | Provide in-state status for all members of armed forces stationed in State and allow continuity of in-state eligibility once established | SCHEV                           |  |                            |
|   | Support for Virginia's Guard and Reserve                           | Provide tax credits and other incentives for employers to cover pay off-sets for deployed Guardsmen                                      | Department of Military Affairs  |  |                            |
|   | State tax exemption for Active duty military, Guard and Reserve    | Eliminate State income tax for active duty, Guard and Reserve while serving on active  |                                 |  |                            |

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|                   |  | military duty outside of the State  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Team Virginia Family funding   | Provide funding for enhanced Team Virginia Family Centers at locations distant from military bases  |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Unemployment compensation for military spouses                           | Provide unemployment status/compensation for Active, Guard, Reserve military spouses force to leave employment due to military transfer of service member |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Improved Electronic Absentee Balloting for military members and families | Enact streamlined, electronic balloting processes for military members and families serving out of State on military orders                               |                                 |  |                            |
|                   | Child care tax credit for Active, Guard and Reserve military             | Provide a child care tax credit for Active, Guard and Reserve military members serving on active  |                                 |  |                            |

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|   | members                        | duty within the State  |                                 |  |                            |
|   |                                |  |                                 |  |                            |
|   |                                |  |                                 |  |                            |
|   |                                |  |                                 |  |                            |
|   |                                |  |                                 |  |                            |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES ISSUES</b> |                                |  |                                 |  |                            |
|   | State Income Tax Check Off     | State income tax \$1 check-off to support the Department of Veterans Services  | Department of Taxation          |  |                            |
|   | Fully Fund DVS Budget          | Provide full and necessary funding for the DVS   | DVS                             |  |                            |
|   | DVS Veterans Awareness Program | Provide special 3 year funding for awareness/outreach program to advise veterans and their families of services available  | DVS                             |  |                            |
|   | Virginia House Program         | Authorize DVS/VSF to establish a Virginia House program to construct/operate State "Fisher Houses" at Vet Care Centers/other needed locations to support visitation needs of |                                 |  |                            |

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|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|
|                       |                    | vets' families          |   |  |                            |
|                       |                    |                         |   |  |                            |
|                       |                    |                         |   |  |                            |
|                       |                    |                         |   |  |                            |
|                       |                    |                         |   |  |                            |
|                       |                    |                         |   |  |                            |